

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 14, 16, 18 and 20-24 are all the claims pending in the application, as claims 10 and 13 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner has not provided an initialed copy of form PTO/SB/08 indicating that he has considered the references of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 28, 2006. Applicant therefore requests that the Examiner provide a copy of the initialed form with the next official communication.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action of March 8, 2006, the Examiner indicated Claims 10, 13, 14, 16, 18 and 20 are objected to as being dependent on rejected base claims but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Accordingly, Applicant herein amends claims 2 and 4 to include the subject matter of claims 10 and 13, and claims 14, 16, 18 and 20 are herein rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of the original base claims 4, 2, 4 and 4, respectively.

Statement of Substance of Interview

An interview was conducted between Examiner Jason C. Olsen and the Applicant's undersigned representative on June 8, 2006. All of the pending claims were discussed. Specifically, Applicant's undersigned representative proposed amending claims 2 and 4 to include the subject matter of claims 10 and 13, cancelling claims 10 and 13, and amending

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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claims 14, 16, 18 and 20 to be in independent form so as to include the subject matter of the original base claims 4, 2, 4 and 4, respectively. The Examiner agreed that the proposed amendment should place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant herein amends the claims consistent with the amendments proposed in the interview.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

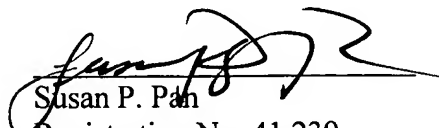
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER


Susan P. Pan
Registration No. 41,239

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